

# Brianna Rae Johns

Washington, D.C.

## Professional Summary

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Brianna Rae's academic expertise is centered in the field of literacy and writing studies, with a specialization at the intersection of the legacy of slavery, mass incarceration, and censorship. Her research and teaching pursuits encompass writing for diverse learners and anti-racist rhetoric and composition, reflecting her commitment to advancing these critical areas within English studies. Brianna Rae advocates for reforms that advance equity, inclusivity, and the dismantling of systemic barriers to knowledge and literacy.

## Education

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Doctor of Arts      English Pedagogy, Murray State University

Master of Arts      Writing Studies, Saint Joseph's University

Bachelor of Science      Education, Bloomsburg University

## Academic Employment

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### Lecturer, Howard University

#### First-Year Writing Program

Fall 2023 - present (Instructor of Record/8 sections)

Courses: Technical Writing, Writing, Literacy & Discourse, Reflective Writing Portfolio

### Adjunct Assistant Professor, University of Maryland Global Campus

#### Writing Across the Curriculum

Fall 2023 - present (Instructor of Record/2 sections)

Courses: Academic Writing II

### Adjunct Professor, Trinity Washington University

Fall 2023 - present (Instructor of Record/3 sections)

Courses: Critical Reading & Writing Seminar

### Instructor, Maya Angelou Academy

#### New Beginnings Youth Detention Center

Summer 2023 (Instructor of Record/4 sections)

Courses: English

**Reading Specialist, Sela Public Charter School**

Spring 2023

**Secondary English Teacher, The Agnes Irwin School**

Fall 2021 - Spring 2022 (Instructor of Record/6 sections)

Courses: English I, English IV: Imprisonment Literature, English IV: Creative Writing

**Elementary English Teacher, Mastery Charter Schools**

Spring 2020 - Spring 2021

**Long-Term Substitute Teacher, The School District of Philadelphia**

Spring 2019 - Fall 2019

Grades Taught: 4th and 5th

**Elementary Teacher, Inquiry Charter School**

Fall 2018 - Spring 2019

Grades Taught: 3rd

**Elementary Teacher, Excellence Girls Charter School**

Fall 2017 - Spring 2018

Grades Taught: 3rd & 4th

**Professional Affiliations**

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**National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)**

- Member since 2021

**Publications**

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**Journals:**

“Book Banning in U.S. Schools and Prisons as Modern Day Slave Codes” accepted in *English Journal* Vol. 113, Issue 3. (2024), National Council of Teachers of English

**Children’s Books:**

"Nailed It" (Picture Book)

Published: May 2018

Publisher: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform

ISBN: 978-1717595287

“Reese Rescues” (Picture Book)

Published: May 2022

Publisher: Independently published

ISBN: 979-8802597521

### **Works in Progress:**

“Coded Censorship: Decoding the Intricate Relationship Between Racism, Book Banning, and Generative AI”

“Post Pandemic Pedagogy: Mitigating Learned Helplessness in the Digital Age”

### **Conference Presentations**

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“Censorship in the Digital Age: AI and Book Banning” **College English Association – Middle Atlantic Group, 66th Annual Conference “Transformations”** March 2024

### **Invited Talks**

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**Guest Lecture Series | Prison & Justice Initiative, Georgetown University** March 2024  
Washington, D.C.

Invited as a distinguished guest lecturer to address students in the Prison Scholars Program, presenting my research on book banning and the legacy of slavery. Contributed to Georgetown University's commitment to offering educational opportunities to incarcerated individuals. Facilitated critical discussions on social justice issues by sharing insights and research findings with students, fostering engagement and learning within the correctional facility.

**Panelist for 10th Annual Career Day at Mastery Shoemaker High School** March 2019  
Philadelphia, PA

Discussed career paths and educational choices with middle and high school students, accompanied by Dr. William Hite Jr., former superintendent of The School District of Philadelphia (SDP), sharing insights into the field of teaching and learning.

### **Professional Development: K-12 Teachers**

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**"Effective Curriculum Adherence in Reading Classrooms"** May 2023  
Sela Public Charter School

Provided afternoon professional development for elementary reading teachers focused on strategies for implementing reading curriculum with fidelity to support diverse learners in inclusive classrooms. Explored techniques for adapting teaching methods, materials, and assessments to ensure that the curriculum meets the individual needs of every student.

## Author Talks and Speaker Events:

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### **"Unlocking Narratives: Exploring Imprisonment Literature with Cyntoia Brown-Long"**

November 2021

The Agnes Irwin School

Organized and hosted an author talk with Cyntoia Brown-Long, exploring the intersection of gender and the prison system through her acclaimed novel "Free Cyntoia: My Search for Redemption in the American Prison System." The event encouraged students to engage with literature critically and appreciate the power of storytelling in addressing societal issues.

## Volunteer Work

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### **Mentor**

2022 - Present

PEN America

As a mentor in PEN America's Prison and Justice Writing Mentorship Program, I provide incarcerated writers with guidance and support, enhancing their craft and encouraging creative experimentation.

## Certifications:

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### **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the Workplace Certificate**

05/2021

University of South Florida, Muma College of Business

### **Instructional 1 Professional Elementary Teaching Certificate**

08/2018

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania